



## NEWS RELEASE

### Media Contact:

Shiara Dávila-Morales, Chief  
Media Relations Division  
213-974-3525  
[SDavila-Morales@da.lacounty.gov](mailto:SDavila-Morales@da.lacounty.gov)  
Twitter: @LADAOOffice

April 20, 2015

## Police Officer Charged with Assault Under Color of Authority

A Los Angeles police officer was charged today with assault by a public officer for allegedly applying unlawful force during an October 2014 arrest, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Oscar Plascencia of the Justice System Integrity Division said defendant Richard Garcia (dob 9/19/80) is expected to be arraigned this afternoon in Department 30 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center. He is charged in case BA435794.

The charge stems from an incident at 55<sup>th</sup> Street and Avalon Boulevard in Los Angeles on Oct. 16, 2014. Officers approached the victim during an investigation of a robbery.

The victim, who matched the description of the robbery suspect, ran when he was approached by police officers, the prosecutor said.

Following a foot pursuit, the victim surrendered but Garcia allegedly went on to assault the man while he was laying prone on the ground, the prosecutor added.

Bail for the defendant is recommended at \$35,000. If convicted as charged, Garcia faces up to three years county jail.

The prosecutor said Garcia has been placed on administrative leave. At the time of the incident, Garcia was assigned to the LAPD's Newton Community Police Station, Parole Compliance Unit.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department.

# # #

## **About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.